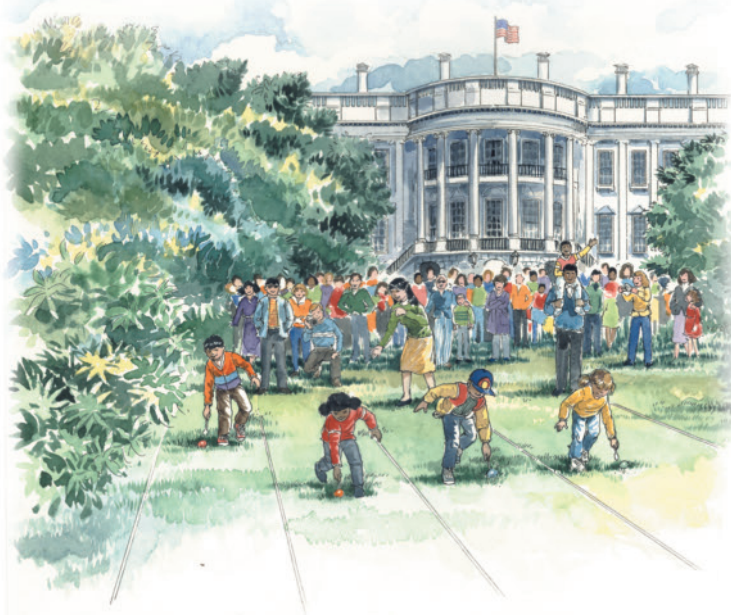


White House VISITOR CENTER

1450 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

The Annual Easter Egg Roll: A White House Tradition



The White House Easter Egg Roll is an annual tradition dating back to 1878 and the administration of President Rutherford B. Hayes. On the Monday after Easter, hundreds of children flock to the South Lawn of the White House to roll colorful eggs through the grass.

Appearances by the White House Easter Bunny, souvenir eggs, celebrities and maypole dances have surprised and delighted children at this event through the years.

This year's event will be held Monday, April 17. The event is free to the general public, however, tickets are required. In case of inclement weather, the Egg Roll will be cancelled. For more information about the Easter Egg Roll, please call the White House Visitors Office 24-hour information line at (202) 456-7041.

Spring Garden Tours Showcase the White House Grounds

Spring Garden Tours provide a special opportunity to visit the grounds around the White House. Over the years, the eighteen acres that comprise the White House grounds have been subject to constant change. Spring Garden Tours will be held on Saturday, April 1 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. and on Sunday, April 2 from 12 noon to 4 p.m. Free same-day timed tickets will be available at the Ellipse Visitor Pavilion, on 15th and E Street, NW, beginning at 8 a.m. each day.

Thomas Jefferson is credited as the first president to design a landscaping plan for the White House. He supervised construc-

tion of the east and west knolls of the South Lawn, known as the Jefferson Mounds. President John Quincy Adams also had a great interest in the grounds and is said to have done most of the work himself during his term.

In 1851, during Millard Fillmore's term, architect Andrew Jackson Downing was hired to create a plan for the grounds, adding a circular drive on the South Lawn as well as a circular park located south of the White House.

The 1930s saw the removal of several trees on the South Lawn to create an open view from the White House to the

Potomac River. The upkeep of the grounds was turned over to the National Park Service during the Kennedy administration.

For information on garden dates and tickets, please call the White House Visitor Center at (202) 208-1631.



General Marquis de Lafayette Statue

The statue of General Marquis de Lafayette in Lafayette Park, north of the White House, honors a great French patriot of the American Revolution. While a tribute to a Frenchman, and executed by French sculptors, it is a monument entirely conceived, legislated, and funded by the United States Congress. It is intended to remind generations of Americans of the highest level of patriotism and democracy.

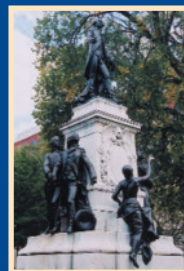
In April 1777, Lafayette sailed to America to aid in the American colonists' struggle for independence from the British. Congress granted him a commission of major general in July 1777. By the end of the year Lafayette had also received command of his own troops, and he had cemented a strong friendship with General George Washington, who became Lafayette's "adopted father."

Lafayette's popularity in both American and French circles was an important factor in the treaties of February 1778, that ensured French support for the American cause. In 1779, Lafayette returned to France and succeeded in helping secure 6,000

French soldiers for the war. Lafayette returned to America in 1780. Although the formal end of the Revolutionary War did not come until 1783, Lafayette and his troops held Cornwallis at Yorktown in 1781 and confirmed America's independence.

In 1782, Lafayette returned to France having become "the Hero of Two Worlds." Congress voted on a motion to invite Lafayette to America in 1824 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Revolutionary War. At that time Lafayette was the sole surviving military figure from the American Revolution and celebrated as the "Nation's Guest."

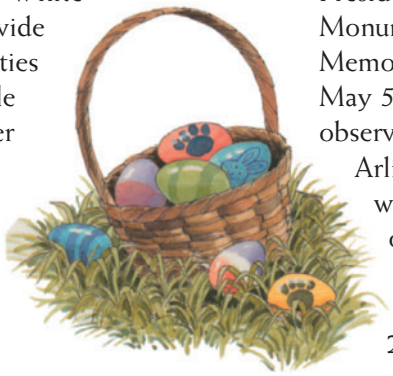
The statue of Lafayette was formally completed in 1891, and placed on the southeast corner of Lafayette Park. The Lafayette statue has served as the backdrop for ceremonies involving the French and American governments. An Act of Congress made Lafayette an "honorary citizen" in 2002.



SPECIAL FAMILY ACTIVITIES

★ Eggs....Eggs....and More Eggs!

The White House Visitor Center will present a full day of free holiday programs on Monday, April 17. The Center, located just southeast of the White House, will provide crafts and activities for families while the annual Easter Egg Roll takes place on the White House South Lawn. *No reservations required.*



★ Join Us on Memorial Day

On Monday, May 29, activities will focus on this day of remembrance for those who died in our nation's service, including those honored in President's Park at the First Division Monument and Second Division Memorial. Originally proclaimed on May 5, 1868, the holiday was first observed on May 30, 1868 at Arlington National Cemetery, when flowers were placed on the graves of Civil War soldiers. Activities will be available from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. *No reservations required.*

★ Flag Day

President Harry S. Truman signed an Act of Congress on August 3, 1949 designating June 14 of each year as National Flag Day – many years after Betsy Ross was asked to create the first flag. Join our crafts program on Wednesday, June 14 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and use this opportunity to create your own flag. We'll have plenty of star stickers, red, white and blue construction paper, scissors and glue available...and some surprises! *No reservations required.* For more information about any of these activities, call (202) 208- 1631.

WALKS, TALKS AND OTHER THOUGHTS

Interpretive programs are presented by Park Rangers and volunteers daily at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. A guided theme walk is offered daily at 11:30 a.m. These programs last from approximately 35 minutes to one hour in length. More detailed descriptions of today's programs are available at the Visitor Center Information Desk.



GUIDED WALKS AROUND THE PARK

These Ranger-guided walks stop at the many monuments and memorials around President's Park:

"A Walk Around President's Park" – Discover some of the fascinating facts about this parcel of land surrounding the White House.

"The Changing Neighborhood" – Where was the canal? Why is Pennsylvania Avenue closed to vehicles? What's that mark on the Gatehouse? The answers to these questions and more are explored on a walk!

"Spring Has Sprung" – Spring is the best time of the year! Walk through the beautiful greenery and discover the flora and fauna of President's Park.



PROGRAMS ABOUT 1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE

Learn about the White House and its important residents:

"I Cannot Live Without Books" – said Thomas Jefferson two centuries ago. What books continue to educate, enlighten, and inspire Presidents?

"The Man Who Would be President" – Enjoy this special presentation on Memorial Day.

"Presidents and Baseball" – It's that season! Many of our Presidents have thrown out the first ball to signal the beginning of America's "national pastime."

"Yes, we have no Picassos!" – In a slide presentation, review a selection of works by American artists in the White House collection.



THE PARK

Join a Park Ranger's discussion about President's Park:

"Who is That?" – Learn why an equestrian statue dedicated to William Tecumseh Sherman is the centerpiece of this small park.

"Washington's Washington" – In the late 1700s, parts of Virginia and Maryland created America's new capital city. Why is it called a district?

"Inside the West Wing" – A verbal "look" into the work area of the President of the United States.

"Frozen in Time" – Admire the artistry of the many statues that abound in President's Park, and hear the compelling stories surrounding the women and men that inspired their creation.



GREAT PEOPLE IN HISTORY

Join a Park Ranger's discussion about important contributors to our nation's history:

"Impeach or Not" – Listen to the facts and judge for yourself whether President Johnson should have been impeached in 1868.

"Harry S Truman" – This discussion focuses on the Missourian, short in stature but long in courage, who unexpectedly became President after the death of Franklin D. Roosevelt.

"God and Country, Guts and Glory" – Appreciate the beauty of this elegant monument dedicated to the U.S. Army's First Division. Learn more about the legacy of service that inspired it.

"The Dual Adversaries of Alexander Hamilton" – Hear how Alexander Hamilton, the first Secretary of the Treasury, overcame both his early status in a stratified society and a relatively short life – to achieve greatness.

"The Last Great Battle" – Ulysses S. Grant's struggle against his most daunting opponent becomes real in this presentation.

"Mary Todd Lincoln – Trials and Tribulations" – Form your own opinions about this controversial First Lady.



SPECIAL PARK EVENTS



National Park Week will be held from April 22 –30. The theme for this special week honoring all 390 National Parks will be "Connecting Our Children to America's National Parks." Special activities are being planned by all thirteen parks in the Washington, D.C. area. For additional information, call the National Capital Region Public Affairs Office at (202) 619-7222.

KEY



Interpretive Program



Walking Tour



Special Event



EXPERIENCE
Your AMERICA

Programs may change due to reassignment of rangers to other duties that serve the National Park Service. Every effort is made to maintain the schedule as printed. Please contact the Visitor Center at (202) 208-1631 to confirm programs and dates. The Center is open daily from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you would like to be added to our mailing list, e-mail us at wbbo_presidents_park@nps.gov.

This calendar is sponsored by the National Park Service and the White House Historical Association.